(c) the progress of the scheme in the State and whether it is satisfactory; and

(d) the total number of villages electrified so far in the State and the number of those villages which are yet to be electrified?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) As per 2001 Census, there are 21713 un-electrified villages in Jharkhand. Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) envisages electrification of all un-electrified villages by 2009 except villages covered under Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources (MNES) programme of village electrification.

(b) Rs. 1100 crore were allocated & released under the scheme during 2005-06. Rs. 3000 crore have been allocated for 2006-07 under the scheme.

(c) Jharkhand state so far has submitted 21 Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for 21 districts of the state. The Monitoring Committee of Ministry of Power (MOP) has accorded "in principle" approval to 11 DPRs with an outlay on Rs. 1141.85 crore for electrification of 6689 un-electrified villages, re-electrification on 890 de-electrified villages and intensive electrification of 4326 already electrified villages in 11 districts of the state.

(d) As per 2001 Census out of 29354 inhabited villages only 7641 villages are electrified, leaving thereby 21713 villages as un-electrified.

Project for strengthening western grid

2048. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved a project for strengthening of western grid in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the project and the estimated date of its completion; and

(c) the details of the benefits accruing to Maharashtra following the project's completion?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Investment approval has been issued for "Western Region

System Strengthening Scheme-M" of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) on 24th July, 2006. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 5221.23 Crore. The Scheme is scheduled to be implemented within 48 months from the date of investment approval. The project will facilitate drawal of power from other regions and its dispersal to various load centres of Western Region, including Maharashtra. It will also improve the reliability of the Western Region Grid.

Power projects under construction

2049. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power generation projects aggregating over 40,000 MW and involving an investment of Rs. 1,86,000 crores are under construction, out of which 19,500 MW are reportedly targeted for; completion in 2006-07; and

(b) if so, the details thereof both in private and public sector project-wise, location-wise, cost-wise and period fixed for completion in each case State-wise particularly in Rajasthan and Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) According to the information available with Central Electricity Authority, at present, generation projects aggregating over 40,500 MW are under implementation. A list giving details of these projects along with cost and commissioning schedule is given in the Annexure *[See* Appendix 208, Annexure No. 7]

Hydro thermal power generation

2050. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the power generated from the hydro-thermal power projects in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the power generation (million units) per megawatt has been going down in terms of its installed capacity over the year and the generation-fell by over 30 per cent from 1994-95 to 2004-05;